

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HALIFA 00294 181602Z

64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 DRC-01 /062 W

----- 037392

R 181545Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 883

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS HALIFAX 294

EO 11652 NA

TAGS PINT CA

SUBJ GENERAL ELECTION CALLED IN NEW BRUNSWICK

REF HALIFAX 279

1. ON OCTOBER 11 PREMIER RICHARD HATFIELD ANNOUNCED THAT HE IS CALLING A PROVINCIAL GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN FIVE WEEKS ON NOVEMBER 18. THE LAST PREVIOUS GENERAL ELECTION WAS HELD ON OCTOBER 26, 1970 WHEN 32 PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES AND 26 LIBERALS WERE CHOSEN. SINCE THEN EIGHT BY ELECTIONS HAVE BEEN HELD SIX OF WHICH THE PC WON. PRESENT STANDINGS ARE PC 32 LIBERALS 25 INDEPENDENT 1.

2. THIS WILL BE THE FIRST NEW BRUNSWICK GENERAL ELECTION FOUGHT IN THE SINGLE-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES CREATED EARLIER THIS YEAR TO REPLACE THE 18. MULTIPLE-MEMBER AND FOUR SINGLE-MEMBER CONSTITUENCIES. THE NUMBER OF SEATS HOWEVER REMAINS THE SAME--58.

3. AT LEAST FOUR PARTIES ARE EXPECTED TO FIELD CANDIDATES. PRIMARY AMONG THESE ARE THE PC WITH THE LIBERALS AS PRINCIPAL CONTENDERS. IN THE RACE ON A SMALLER SCALE WILL BE THE PARTI AIADIEN (SEEKING GREATER REPRESENTATION FOR THE FRENCH CANADIANS) AND THE CANADA PARTY WHICH WANTS AN END

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 HALIFA 00294 181602Z

TO THE OFFICIAL STATUS OF FRENCH IN THE PROVINCE.

4. DETAILS OF THE CAMPAIGN PLATFORMS ARE YET TO BE ANNOUNCED. PC LEADER HATFIELD SAYS HIS PLATFORM WILL BE REVEALED IN THE COURSE OF THE CAMPAIGN. IT IS LIKELY THAT HE WILL TRADE HEAVILY ON IMPROVED EMPLOYMENT, SUCCESSFUL RELATIONS WITH OTTAWA (HE HAS OBTAINED A FEDERAL COMMITMENT FOR A LOAN OF HALF THE COSTS OF A NUCLEAR POWER GENERATOR), THE INTEREST EXPRESSED BY NOVA SCOTIA FOR PURCHASING POWER FROM A SECOND NUCLEAR PLANT IN NEW BRUNSWICK, THE NEED FOR PRESSING FORWARD WITH HIS FOREST RESOURCES PROGRAM AND SIMILAR PROGRAMS IN WHICH CONTINUITY OF ACTION IS IMPORTANT. WHILE OPPOSITION LEADER HIGGINS HAS SERVED NOTICE THAT THE LIBERALS WILL BE ATTACKING THE PC GOVERNMENT FOR WHAT IT TERMS TO BE ITS LACK OF IMAGINATION AND A FAILURE TO BARGAIN WITH OTTAWA EFFECTIVELY, HE HAS YET TO COME UP WITH A LIBERAL PARTY PROGRAM.

5. THE CALL FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION COMES HARD ON THE HEELS OF BYELECTIONS IN TWO RIDINGS BOTH OF WHICH THE PC WON. INCUMBENT HATFIELD AND CHALLENGER HIGGINS ARE YOUNG PERSONABLE FAR FROM FLAMBOYANT MEN DESERVING OF PARTY LEADERSHIP. THERE IS ONLY INCONSEQUENTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO AND THE PLATFORMS THEY ARE LIKELY TO PROPOSE TO BEING ABOUT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE LEGISLATURE. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND BARRING SCANDALS YET UNFORESEEN THE PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE A NEW FIVE YEAR MANDATE.
PAVLOVSKI

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974HALIFA00294
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740297-0757
From: HALIFAX
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741036/aaaabeqx.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: HALIFAX 279
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAR 2002 by chappeld>; APPROVED <11 JUL 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GENERAL ELECTION CALLED IN NEW BRUNSWICK
TAGS: PINT, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005